

REMARKS

Claims 20 - 41 are now pending in the application. Applicant has cancelled claims 22-24 and 34-36. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

A. Claims 20, 21, 23, 24, 32, 33, and 35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being unpatentable over Kazarian, Jr. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,310,064). This rejection is respectfully traversed. In view of the amendments to the claims, Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection has been rendered moot.

B. Claims 20, 23, 32, and 35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being unpatentable over Oliver (U.S. Pat. No. 5,842,364). This rejection is respectfully traversed. In view of the amendments to the claims, Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection has been rendered moot.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner states that claims 22, 34, and 41 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicant has amended claims 22, 34, and 41 to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, claims 20, 32, and 41 should now be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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